This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for transferring an information object across a network, wherein the information object resides on a first storage device accessed by a provider process executing on a first processor, wherein the information object comprises a plurality of attributes, wherein each attribute contains information, wherein a consumer process executes on a second processor, the method comprising:

sending the information object across the network to the consumer process;

storing the information object in a second storage device as a second instance of the information object;

after sending the information object, using the provider process to modify one or more of the attributes of the information object, an amount of information contained by the one or more modified attributes being less than an amount of information contained by the information object;

sending the one or more modified attributes of the information object across the network to the consumer process;

synchronizing the second instance of the information object based on the one or more modified attributes;

using the consumer process to formulate a relational criterion based on the attributes of the information object;

using the consumer process to submit a request to the provider process by performing:

           providing a location of the consumer process within the network;

           providing a unique identifier associated with the information object; and

           providing the relational criterion to the provider process;

     using the provider process to detect when a change in the attributes of the

information object satisfies the relational criterion; and

           in response to the change in the attributes of the information object, transferring

information about the changed attributes across the network and updating the second instance on

the second storage device in accordance with the information about the changed attributes.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information object is a data object.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information object is a data definition.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information object is an algorithm.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information object is stored in a storage

device local to the processor executing the provider process.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

           using the provider process to create the information object.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a server process is used to control

modifications to the information object, the method further comprising:

           receiving modification requests at the server process in a form of

add/update/delete instructions;

           using the server process to modify the information object in accordance with the

received requests; and

using the server process to transmit information on modifications to the

information object.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a server process is used to control

requests of the consumer process, the method further comprising:

receiving consumer requests at the server process in a form of

publish/subscribe/edit operations;

in response to a publish operation request, using the server process to create a new

instance of the information object;

in response to a subscribe operation request, using the server process to cause

information on modifications to the information object to update the second instance of the

information object on the second storage device; and

in response to edit operations, using the server process to modify the information

object.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein automated processes execute on

one or more processors, the method further comprising:

executing an automated process in response to a publish operation to perform a

function on an instance of the information object.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein multiple instances of the

information object exist in multiple storage devices, the method further comprising:

using a server process to prevent one or more of the multiple instances from being

synchronized.

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12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

        each attribute comprises one or more name/value pairs, each name/value pair

comprises a name and a value, the method further comprising:

        formulating a relational criterion based on one or more names of the name/value

pairs.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

        each attribute comprises one or more name/value pairs, each name/value pair

comprises a name and a value, the method further comprising:

        formulating a relational criterion based on one or more values of the name/value

pairs.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

        the network is a client-server arrangement; and

        sending the one or more modified attributes of the information object across the

network to the consumer process comprises:

        transferring information in a series of multiple store-and-forward operations.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the network is the Internet using Internet

Protocol for information transmissions.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein identification of information objects uses an

identifier that includes a Uniform Resource Locator as standardized on the Internet.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

        the information object is associated with a data definition defining the class of the

information object; and

        each instance of the information object is an instance of the defined class.

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18-19. (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Presented) A method for synchronizing a data definition of an information object across a network, wherein a plurality of processors and storage devices are coupled to the network, wherein the data definition resides on a first storage device accessed by a provider process executing on a first processor, wherein the data definition has one or more attributes, wherein an information object associated with the data definition resides in a second storage device accessed by a first consumer process executing on a second processor, the method comprising:

using the provider process to change at least one attribute of the data definition;

propagating at least one of the changed attributes of the data definition across the network;

using the first consumer process to access the information object residing in the second storage device according to at least one of the changed attributes of the data definition;

assigning a unique identifier to the data definition by changing at least one of the attributes of the data definition to associate the data definition with a storage place on the first storage device; and

propagating at least one of the changed attributes of the data definition across the network by propagating the unique identifier.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein a second consumer process executing on a third processor accesses and stores the data definition, the method further comprising:

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using the first consumer process to modify at least one of the changed attributes of

the data definition to create a second changed data definition;

transferring the second changed data definition to the provider process; and

using the provider process to propagate the second changed data definition to the

second consumer process.

23-30. (Canceled)

31.   (Previously Presented) A system for distributing information objects over the internet,

each information object having a plurality of attributes, the system comprising a first computer

coupled to the Internet, wherein the first computer includes a user input device and a processor,

the system comprising:

means for accepting signals from the user input device to specify a relational

condition using one or more of the attributes;

means for using the processor to transfer an indication to the Internet of the

specified relational condition;

means for identifying one or more information objects satisfying the relational

condition;

means for transferring at least a portion of each identified information object from

the Internet to the first computer; and

means for using the processor to receive at least a portion of each identified

information object.

32.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein one or more attributes of each

information object includes associated values, wherein the Internet includes a server computer

for receiving queries in a form of specified relational conditions and for comparing query

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conditions with information object attributes to identify information objects that match the query

conditions, the system further comprising:

means for using the server computer to receive the specified relational condition;

wherein said means for identifying comprises means for using the server

computer to detect when at least one of the information object's attributes and values satisfy the

specified relational condition; and

wherein said means for transferring comprises means for transferring information

to the processor to identify the detected information objects.

33.   (Canceled)

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